

Economic Snapshot Q12025 (with some analysis of early Q2)

SANTA CLARITA VALLEY >

SANTA CLARITA VALLEY Your Strategic Location

STILL GOLDEN

The business-friendly Santa Clarita Valley is conveniently located next to Interstate 5 and Highway 14 and is home to the 3rd largest city in Los Angeles County, the City of Santa Clarita. The SCV is a growing area encompassing 520 square miles with a population of approximately 300,000 residents.





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SANTA CLARITA VALLEY Major Industries in SCV



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Demographics

Source: California Economic Forecast, Census Bureau, Bureau of Labor Statistics

SCV Population by Age Group







Demographics

Source: Census, American Community Survey, HUD, and Labor Market Info Division

Key Demographic Comparisons 2024

Indicator	Santa Clarita Valley	Los Angeles County	Ventura County
Population	294,300	9,706,666	831,228
Population ages 18 to 65)%)	63.8	64.6	60.6
Percent of population employed	50.1	48.8	49.8
December 2024 Unemployment Rate	5.4%	5.7%	4.7%
Median Household Income	\$120,089	\$83,478	\$102,942
Homeowner (as % of all households)	71.0	45.4	63.2
Families below Poverty line (%)	3.6	7.1	3.9
Travel to to work (minutes one way)	38.0	34.0	28.0

Household Income 2024





Source: CoStar, Redfin, NAI Capital, Los Angeles County

Purchase Market

(actual information through April 2025)

- The market includes the entire Castaic-Stevenson Ranch-Santa Clarita region.
- The median selling price has pushed to an all-time record high in April 2025. It is \$846,000 for all properties, and \$896,200 for single-family detached homes. The latter value represents a 1.6 percent increase from the median selling value in April 2024.
- For the 4-month period, January to April 2024, the median price for the region is \$864,350, down 2.6 percent compared to the first 4 months of 2024.
- Inventory in April 2025 for the region was 38 percent higher than inventory in April 2024.
- For the first 4 months of 2025, for sale inventory is 8 percent lower in Castaic, but 40 percent higher in Santa Clarita and 104 percent higher in Stevenson Ranch





Source: CoStar, Redfin, NAI Capital, Los Angeles County



- All residential sales during 2024 increased 3.4 percent over total sales in 2023. Single-family home sales were 4.3 percent higher.
- All residential sales have increased 1.6 percent during the first 4 months of 2025, relative to the same period in 2024. Single-family home sales were 8.7 percent higher.
- All residential sales from January through April of 2025 were slightly higher in Santa Clarita and Stevenson Ranch, but lower by 4.2 percent in Castaic.
- Sales are running 17 percent lower in Castaic this year, 9.9 percent higher in Santa Clarita, and 50 percent higher in Stevenson Ranch.



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Source: CoStar, Redfin, NAI Capital, Los Angeles County



For the latest month of April 2025:

	All Residential Sale Price	Total Sales	Single Family Homes Only	Total Sales
Castaic	\$854,000	14	\$854,000	14
Santa Clarita	\$815,000	175	\$875,000	135
Stevenson Ranch	\$1,137,000	12	\$1,280,000	9
SCV Region	\$846,000	201	\$896,000	158

• The pace of total housing sales in 2025 is only slightly greater than total housing sales in 2024, but the highest since 2022. New listings this year are 10.2 percent higher than last year.



Source: CoStar, Redfin, NAI Capital, Los Angeles County

The Rental Market

(actual information through June 2, 2025)

- There are 17,060 apartment units in the Santa Clarita Valley.
- Though apartment rents are at their highs, there has been virtually no appreciation recorded in 2024 or 2025. Effectively, average rents are flat.
- Vacancy rates have gradually tightened recently, to 4.1 percent. There were an estimated 677 vacant apartment units in the Santa Clarita Valley in March 2025, and 640 vacant units today.
- The 228-unit Overlook Santa Clarita in Plum Canyon has not opened yet. It will be the first large project delivered to the rental market since 2020. The lower end of rents at the Overlook has dropped recently from \$2,658 to \$2,492 (a 701-square-foot apartment). The high-end rate of \$3,548 per month for the largest apartment, which is 1,334 square feet, remains the same as the rate advertised back in February 2025.





Source: CoStar, Redfin, NAI Capital, Los Angeles County

• The Sand Canyons Apartment complex is also underway. The 323-unit project is mostly apartments (259) but also includes townhomes (64). It is expected to be completed in 12 months or by mid-2026.





Source: CoStar, Redfin, NAI Capital, Los Angeles County

New Home Building



- Year to date through May, 528 units were permitted in the city and unincorporated areas (Stevenson Ranch and Castaic) of Santa Clarita.
- 90 percent of new housing in 2025 is single-family detached units.

New Housing, Santa Clarita Valley, 2020 -- 2025

	Estimated Units
2020	1,090
2021	1,067
2022	619
2023	1,480
2024	513
2025 (January – May)	525



Source: CoStar, NAI Capital

The actual data for all three markets presented here is through June 2, 2025

Industrial

- Utilization is rising in the industrial market. The rate of vacancy has declined over the last six months, now standing at 3.9 percent. Total available industrial space is 9.9 percent, slightly higher than 9.7 percent in the first quarter.
- The latest delivery of new space to the industrial market was 288,200 square feet in Needham Ranch (Phase II), which occurred in June 2024. No new deliveries have occurred since.
- For the current stock of available space, lease rates are averaging \$1.36 per square foot NNN.
- CoStar reported that 46 leasing deals have been signed so far in 2025, exceeding the 36 deals signed during the same period in 2024.
- Over 740,000 square feet of space is currently under construction.



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Industrial Vacancy Rate / Santa Clarita Valley

Source: CoStar, NAI Capital



Office

- The latest total market vacancy rate is 15.5 percent, and the availability rate is 19.8 percent as of June 2, 2025.
- Total available square feet for the entire Class A and B inventory is 1.1 million in 2025 Q2.
- CoStar reports 43 leasing deals have been signed in 2025 year-to-date, totaling 80.560 square feet of absorption. Net absorption for the first two quarters of 2025 is positive at 34,390 square feet.
- No new office product is under construction.
- Employment in sectors that use office space remains at high levels. Remote work, however, is preventing the office market in the region from becoming fully utilized. While there is improvement in office utilization in other California markets, Los Angeles County is not yet one of those.



Source: CoStar, NAI Capital

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Source: CoStar, NAI Capital





Retail Market

Source: California Economic Forecast, CoStar, NAI Capital

<u>Retail</u>

- Utilization of retail space remains relatively stable, although the vacancy rate ticked up to 5.1 percent in the current quarter. The availability rate is 5.9 percent. Both measures of utilization had generally been in decline since the pandemic but have moved gradually higher over the past year.
- Net absorption of retail space was a negative 42,706 square feet during 2025 Q2. For the four quarters prior, only 2025 Q1 has recorded positive absorption. There are three buildings under construction at this time.
- Average triple net lease rates in 2025 Q2 are \$2.13 per square foot NNN. This declined slightly from \$2.22 per square foot NNN in 2025 Q1.





Retail Market

Source: California Economic Forecast, CoStar, NAI Capital

Total Taxable Retail Sales

- Taxable sales of goods and services from retail outlets in the City have been trending down since late 2022. However, 2025 Q1 sales were slightly higher than 2024 Q1.
- General merchandise retail sales peaked in the fourth quarter of 2022 and have been moving lower since. General merchandise goods are principally sold in large department stores and Big Box stores.
- Sales in restaurants and drinking places, principally bars, peaked in mid-2024 but have been in a modest decline since 2024 Q3.
- Car sales rebounded sharply in the 4th quarter of 2024, continuing into 2025 Q1 with historically high sales volumes.







Retail Vacancy Source: CoStar, NAI Capital



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2025 Q2

2023 Q2

2021 Q2

Source: CoStar, NAI Capital

1.75

1.65

2015 Q2

2017 Q2

2019 Q2

Source: SCVEDC, California Economic Forecast, Labor Market Information Division

- In 2024, 1,461 jobs were created in the Santa Clarita Valley, representing a growth rate of 1.3 percent, consistent with the broader Los Angeles County labor market.
- The professional business services sector, which includes scientific & technical consulting, administrative support, and employment in management, reached an all-time high in December 2024. However, it is now contracting, due mainly to the onset and adoption of AI in these subsectors.
- Employment estimates for the first 4 months of 2025 indicate net job contraction in the Santa Clarita Valley. For the year to date, the growth of employment is running at an annual pace of -550 jobs.



Job Creation / Santa Clarita Valley



Source: SCVEDC, California Economic Forecast, Labor Market Information Division

The lack of positive job growth is not unique to the Santa Clarita Valley region; labor market growth is absent in Southern California and the entire state.

- The declines in workforce appear to be the largest in construction and manufacturing
- The accommodation and food services sector has also slightly declined in job counts
- The healthcare and state/local government sectors continue to generate net job gains







Source: California Economic Forecast, Labor Market Information Division



Annual Rate of Employment Change

Labor Market Sector	January thru April 2024 to 2025
	job change
Manufacturing	-497
Construction	-312
Professional Technical and Scientific	-233
Accommodation & Food Services	-232
Real Estate	- 80
Arts & Recreation	+ 44
Admin Support	+ 54
Local Government	+361
Healthcare	+423



Source: California Economic Forecast, Labor Market Information Division







Source: California Economic Forecast, Labor Market Information Division







Unemployment Rate

Source: California Economic Forecast, Labor Market Information Division



Unemployed Unemployment Rate / City of Santa Clarita April 2021 -- Apri 2025 9.0 8.0 7.0 6.0 5.0 4.0 3.0

Apr-21 Aug-21 Dec-21 Apr-22 Aug-22 Dec-22 Apr-23 Aug-23 Dec-23 Apr-24 Aug-24 Dec-24 Apr-25

- The labor force for the city of Santa Clarita is estimated at 118,000 and has slightly increased over the last year. With the influx of new housina, the population and labor force are expected to increase in the region.
- The unemployment rate has gradually moved higher over the last 24 months. The rate, at 5.4 percent, is the same as the broader state unemployment rate.
- The rate has increased due to the labor force rising. The employed population base in the city has neither increased nor decreased since 2021.



Film Activity Source: City of Santa Clarita, FilmLA

Number of Film Permits Issued in City of Santa Clarita



In **Q1**, **a total of 112 permits** were issued for Fiscal Year (FY) 2024–2025 in the City of Santa Clarita, bringing the total to **289**. This is a slight YoY increase from this time last year (**268**), but much reduced compared to previous FY numbers during the same time. Permits are not required for certified soundstages, such as those at Santa Clarita Studios, LA North Studios, and Valencia Studios.

Number of Q1 Film Days in Santa Clarita Valley



The estimated economic impact (**within the City** of Santa Clarita only), including jobs, wages, and economic output generated from filming and post-production activities as well as spending associated with film tourism, infrastructure investments, and value from media exposure in the Santa Clarita Valley is **\$4,952,500 in Q1** and **\$3,773,500 in Q2**, which brings the 2025 calendar year total to \$8,726,000. The city tracks film stats by fiscal year (July – June).

Permits issued throughout the Santa Clarita Valley represented a total of **536 filming days in Q1**, with preliminary Q2 numbers showing approximately **568**.

These included 230 television (+117)*, 130 commercial (+51)*, 70 feature film (-34)*, 24 music video/internet/web content, 8 still photos (-7)*, days, and 74 student/other projects (-15)*. Television had the most significant uptick in Q1, with **117 more days of filming compared to Q4 2024**.







* Numbers in parentheses represent the difference in film days for Q1 compared to Q4 2025.

Film Activity Source: City of Santa Clarita, FilmLA

The City of Santa Clarita normally averages around \$30M in economic impact from local film activity every year, bolstered by its **Film Incentive Program** and film friendly policies. Filming activity in the Santa Clarita Valley has mirrored the slowdown in productions and film days that's been seen across Los Angeles County since it's latest peak in productions during 2022. This has been an ongoing trend across the different production types (feature film, tv series, commercials, etc.), with declines in television, LA County's largest and hardest-hit segment, carrying wide employment repercussions

Est. Economic Impact of Filming in City of Santa Clarita (by calendar year)



according to their **Q1 2025 Report**. The competitive environment for film and TV production is rapidly evolving, with jurisdictions like the UK and New York significantly expanding their studio spaces and tax incentives. In response, California legislators, including Governor Newsom, actively worked with industry experts to strengthen the state's Film & Television Tax Credit Program by more than double its budget cap (from \$330 million to \$750 million). Such enhancements, along with increased flexibility, would position California's program among the largest nationally, ensuring



FilmLA Q1 2025 Report

greater economic stability and growth for the state's entertainment workforce.

LA County's Board of Supervisors also approved a motion on 7/15/25 aimed at cutting red tape, modernizing permitting processes, and exploring bold new investments to secure the region's creative future. While it may be some time to see the results of these initiatives, they are a much-needed step in the right direction.

These changes have the potential to significantly benefit the Santa Clarita Valley by attracting and retaining more film and TV productions, bolstering local employment, supporting related businesses, and reinforcing the region's status as a key production hub within Los Angeles County.



Tourism Source: STR, City of Santa Clarita

The City of Santa Clarita's **Tourism Marketing District (TMD)** consists of nine hotel properties and significantly contributes to the valley's economic growth by strategically utilizing collected assessments to enhance local tourism through targeted promotional activities, benefiting local hotels and the broader community. In February 2025, the newly constructed Hampton Inn

expanded the local room inventory 78 by rooms, bringing the total room count to 1,176. This dual-branded property is connected to the existing Homewood Suites. While occupancy levels may initially dip with the introduction of the new rooms, they are expected to stabilize and grow over time. See the City's 2025 Annual **Report** for more information on the TMD and tourism efforts.





Santa Clarita Valley Lodging Performance

2024 Calendar Year (from STR REPORT - Year to Date)	2023	2024
Average Occupancy	80.1%	71.9%
Average Daily Rate (ADR)	\$154.13	\$141.20
Average Revenue Per Available Room (RevPAR)	\$123.39	\$101.54

City of Santa Clarita Lodging Performance

2024 Calendar Year (from STR REPORT - Year to Date)	2023	2024
Average Occupancy	79.8%	70.2%
Average Daily Rate (ADR)	\$161.64	\$150.73
Average Revenue Per Available Room (RevPAR)	\$129.04	\$105.75



Hotel Vacancy

Source: STR, City of Santa Clarita

Tourism Sub-Region	Occupancy Rate Q1 2025	Occupancy Rate Q1 2024	ADR Rate Q1 2025	ADR Rate Q1 2024
City of Santa Clarita	77.1%	75.2%	\$160.73	\$154.38
Santa Clarita Valley	78.7%	76.6%	\$155.29	\$145.71

Tourism Sub-Region	Occupancy Rate Q4 2024	Occupancy Rate Q4 2023	ADR Rate Q4 2024	ADR Rate Q4 2023
City of Santa Clarita	80.7%	78.87%	\$160.08	\$156.11
Santa Clarita Valley	82.46%	83.13%	\$161.79	\$162.97



Summary California Economic Forecast, SCVEDC

- Taxable sales, a proxy for consumer spending in the region, are slightly higher in 2025 Q1 compared to a year ago. However, spending on general merchandise, restaurants, and bars is slightly lower, extending the downward trend that has been in place since early 2023.
- Adjusted for inflation, sales are lower in all retail categories this year.
- Home purchase prices are at record highs. However, price appreciation has declined into the low single digits. The selling price for January-April 2025 is 1.5 percent higher than the January-April 2024 selling price.
- For sale inventory has soared, rising 38 percent this year compared to 2024.
- Apartment vacancy remains tight, though average asking rents have leveled off. Apartment rent appreciation has risen 1.4 percent over the last 18 months.
- 2025 residential construction activity is already ahead of total permits issued in 2024. A reported 281 units were permitted in the City, and 247 units have been permitted in the unincorporated area of the Santa Clarita Valley. The data spans the period from January to May.
- The industrial market remains active. Vacancy rates, which had moved higher with new product deliveries in 2024, are tightening in 2025.
- Office employment is strong, but much of that employment is not working in formal office space. Vacancy decreased slightly in Q2, while availability increased. Although there is increased pressure from employers to return workers to a formal office setting, the market in Santa Clarita has not changed significantly yet.
- 1,225 jobs were created in the SCV during 2024, a 1.3 percentage point increase in employment. During the first 4 months of 2025, total employment has declined at an annual pace of 550 jobs. The construction and manufacturing sectors lead all other labor markets in job decline.
- The unemployment rate is 5.4 percent. It has risen very gradually over the last two years, largely due to slow but positive growth in the labor force. Though employment is lower this year, the level of unemployment is not worrisome at this time.



About SCVEDC

As a unique private / public partnership representing the united effort of regional industry and government leaders, the Santa Clarita Valley Economic Development Corporation (SCVEDC) adopts an integrated approach to attracting, retaining and expanding a diversity of businesses, especially those in key industry clusters.

SCVEDC's mission is fourfold:

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Business Attraction	Business Assistance	Community Marketing	Information + Research
Location			
30 Miles from DTLA	Close to LAX & the Ports	In the 30 Mile Zone (TMZ)	Easy Access to I-5 & 405, & CA 14
Demographics			
Nearly 300K Residents	Median Household Income is \$123K	72% Have at Least Some College	ណុំណុំ ស្គំណុំណុំណុំ Millennials are Largest Generation
Accolades			
$\mathbf{\nabla}$		30	
Most Business- Friendly City 2025	Happiest City Heal	thiest City Safest Cit	ty Best Place to Start a Family
			46 PR ANNIVERS

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Contributors

Dr. Mark Schniepp Principal - California Economic Forecast

Scott Heffernan Director, Marketing & Research – SCVEDC

Shilpa Desai Economic Development Associate – SCVEDC

> City of Santa Clarita Film & Tourism Offices





26455 Rockwell Canyon Rd. Santa Clarita, CA 91355 scvedc@scvedc.org | 661.288.4400 www.scvedc.org



Connect with us!

Ondre Seltzer

President & CEO

condreseltzer@scvedc.org

661-288-4412

Natalie Vowell

Vice President, Business Development

 Image: Strain Stra





Scott Heffernan

Director, Marketing & Research

661-288-4408



